Subject: Homer/Mithradates coin fabrication

Eastman, Charles B.

[Morris, IL]

1930

Nov. 18, 1930.

The American Numismatic Society

Dear Sirs.,

I am sending you by registered mail, a coin that was given my husband by a collector, thirty years ago. We have long wanted to know where it came from etc. Last week at the Field Museum in Chicago, we were advised to send it to you, for translation, also to know if it is of any value. If by any chance it should be of value to either private collectors or a museum, will you let

me know please? I am sending stamps to the amount I will be sending the specimen mail. I shall be quite anxious to hear your verdict. Thanking you in advance, I am,

Very truly yours,
Mrs. Chas. B. Eastman,
114 Cedar Street,
Morris, Ill.

Nov. 25,1930

Mrs. Chas. B.Eastman
118 Cedar Street
Morris, Ill.

Dear Madam:

Your letter with the so-called coin has been received. I am sorry to inform you that this is not a coin but some sort of a fantastic fabrication. The obverse side with the head of Homer is evidently some jeweller's die for an ornament, or something like that. No coin had such a die. The reverse is a copy from a coin of Mithradates, and the two sides have been been put together by electro-type process and soldered. You will note the core is of base metal, silver plated. Although you did not send return postage, the piece is being returned to you parcel post insured.

Very truly yours,

Curator.